

HONORING GLORIA GRIFFIN

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life and work of Gloria Griffin, a pioneer who dedicated her career to improving women's status in Minnesota.

Gloria Griffin was born in Iowa, grew up in California, and started her career in New York City as art director at Harper's Bazaar and Good Housekeeping. In 1967, she moved to Minnesota with her husband and their four children. In 1976, she entered politics as the Democratic-Farmer-Labor-endorsed candidate for Minnesota's Second Congressional District. She lost the race to the incumbent, but Governor Rudy Perpich recognized her potential and appointed her as Chair of his newly created Open Appointments Commission, where she helped change the face of government by placing more women and minorities in important positions.

After the 1980 election, when Gloria witnessed that "women and children lost big in the legislature," 23 organizations came together to create the Minnesota Women's Consortium. Gloria was unanimously elected as the first Coordinator, and led the Consortium for 15 years. Under her leadership, the Consortium achieved significant milestones that helped it grow into the largest association of women's organizations in the country.

For the better part of a decade, the Minnesota Women's Consortium was run out of a small storefront office. In 1988, Gloria Griffin led a group of women who transformed a decrepit building near the State Capitol into the Minnesota Women's Building at 550 Rice Street. Gloria not only oversaw the new headquarters, but with cooperation from the League of Women Voters Education Fund, Chrysalis, and the Minnesota Women's Consortium, the building was purchased and renovated debt-free.

Gloria Griffin was the key to many more accomplishments and victories. In 1990, under pressure from anti-abortion groups, the Dayton Hudson Foundation withdrew their funding for Planned Parenthood of Minnesota's educational programs. Gloria, along with thousands of women across Minnesota, was outraged at the defunding of these teen pregnancy prevention programs. She correctly predicted that this would only be a "momentary mistake," and organized a successful campaign that resulted in Dayton Hudson reversing its decision and restoring funding.

Gloria Griffin was not only a leader on women's policy issues; she was also a mentor to individual women. In the years to come, her championship of women earned her numerous awards, including the YWCA St. Paul Leadership Award for Outstanding Contribution to Government/Politics, Women of Distinction Award from Soroptimist International for her accomplishments in Human Rights/Advancement of the Status of Women, the Ann Bancroft Dream Maker Award for Achievement and Leadership, and the DFL Woman of Distinction Award.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Gloria Griffin's steadfast commitment to the advancement of women's lives, I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

IN HONOR OF THE HUNGARIAN SCOUTS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hungarian Scouts.

The first Hungarian Scout group to form in the United States was founded in Cleveland, Ohio in 1951. By the fall of that year, two troops, one East side and one West side, had formed and registered with the Boy Scouts of America. In 1952, the Hungarian Scouts expanded and formed a girls' troop. By 1957, the girls' troop had also split into two groups located in the same neighborhoods as the boys' East and West side versions.

In 1973, the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble was created in order to study Hungarian culture and teach it the Hungarian youth. The Ensemble aims to preserve dying folk arts of the Hungarians in the Carpathian basin and pass them on to the public and future generations. Their performances include lively song, dance, and music accompanied by true-to-culture costumes.

Each year the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble performs at the Hungarian Festival held in the Greater Cleveland area during Labor Day weekend. This year marks the 57th annual festival. Celebrations begin on Sunday, September 2nd with a twelve o'clock Hungarian mass followed by the opening of the kitchens at one o'clock serving traditional Hungarian fare such as goulash, chicken paprikas and dumplings, and a variety of pastries. Throughout the day events include soccer matches, free animal programs, challenging children's games, folk art presentations and authentic Hungarian music capped off by the performance of the Hungarian Scout Folk Ensemble.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the Hungarian Scouts.

EASTERN WEST VIRGINIA  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation on obtaining their National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™ accreditation from the Community Foundations National Standards Board.

The Community Foundations National Standards Board was established as a supporting organization of the Council on Foundations, a nonprofit membership association of grant making foundations and corporations, to administer the National Standards. This board is responsible for upholding the quality, value, and integrity of the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations™, the first and only accreditation program of its kind.

In the United States, community foundations serve tens of thousands of donors, administer more than \$40 billion in charitable funds, and address the core concerns of more than 700 communities and regions. With such a pres-

ence—nationally and within local communities—comes responsibility.

Achieving confirmation and reconfirming compliance with National Standards is a rigorous process, guaranteeing that every community foundation that receives the designation has adhered to excellent philanthropic practice. This program requires community foundations to document their policies for governance, donor services, investments, grantmaking, community leadership, and administration.

The Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation of Martinsburg, West Virginia has obtained its National Standards accreditation by demonstrating a commitment to operational quality, integrity, accountability, and adherence to the highest standards for grantmaking.

On behalf of the residents of Martinsburg, I congratulate the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation on receiving its National Standards accreditation and commend the foundation's dedicated service to Martinsburg and communities in West Virginia.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR  
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE  
SCOUT—TRACY MURPHY**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Tracy Murphy for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Tracy provided benches for resting on a local hiking trail. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Tracy has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE WOMEN PEACE-  
MAKERS PROGRAM AT THE UNI-  
VERSITY OF SAN DIEGO ON ITS  
10TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 10, 2012*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute today to the Women PeaceMakers Program at the University of San Diego, which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year.

The award-winning Women PeaceMakers Program, which is based at the university's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace & Justice, IPJ, documents the stories and practices of international women leaders who are involved in human rights and peacemaking efforts in their home countries. It was founded on the idea that history is rarely recorded from women's perspectives, especially women on the frontlines of efforts to end violence and secure peace.